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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hiroshi NOMURA et al.  
Appln. No. : 09/960,382 ✓  
Filed : September 24, 2001  
For : LENS DRIVE MECHANISM

**Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Confirmation No. 7525**

Group Art Unit: 2873

Examiner: H. MAI

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

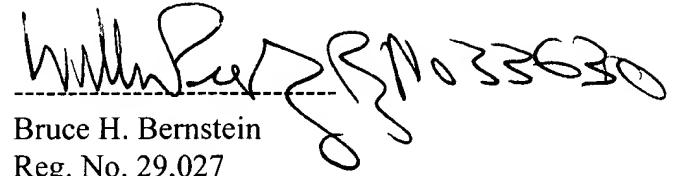
Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on March 3, 2004, and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of each of the claims in the present application. In this regard, while Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicants submit that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of these claims is based on the totality of the features recited therein.

P21186.A08

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hiroshi NOMURA et al.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce H. Bernstein". Below the signature is a horizontal dashed line.

Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

May 23, 2004  
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